

**ABSTRACT**

Disclosed are nucleic acids, peptides, proteins, fusion proteins, antibodies, affibodies, and other reagents that disrupt interactions between ephrins and ephrin receptors. Specifically disclosed are reagents comprising soluble ephrins and soluble ephrin receptors. Also disclosed are methods of using these reagents for the increasing or decreasing cellular proliferation, for example, for alleviation, prevention, or treatment of one or more symptoms of a disease or disorder, including a disease or disorder of the gastrointestinal tract, reproductive tract, skin, or hematopoietic system.

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